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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/513,029 02/25/2000 Connie Blackburn LUCENT-00401 7684

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EXAMINER

ANWAH, OLISA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2645

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/513,029

Applicant(s)

BLACKBURN ET AL.

Examiner

Olisa Anwah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tessler et al, U.S. Patent No. 6289090 (hereinafter Tessler).

Regarding claim 1, Tessler discloses a system comprising:

a database (205) configured for storing a plurality of text names wherein each of the plurality of text names is associated with a unique identifier (see Figure 4);

a control point (SCP) coupled to the database and configured to retrieve one of the plurality of text names in response to a call recipient selected by the calling party (see 203, Figure 2);

Tessler does not explicitly disclose a text to speech converted coupled to the control point and configured to convert the selected one of the plurality of text names into the audible

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name. However Tessler discloses a customer premises equipment display manager (CPE 202) coupled to the control point (203) and configured to deliver the caller's name to the calling party (col. 2, lines 49-52). Tessler further suggests that this delivery could be an audible indication (col. 9, line 60). Since a text to speech converter was old and notoriously well known in the art, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use a text to speech converter as integrated into the CPE display manager for performing the suggested audible indication method of Tessler on col. 19, line 60. The modification would reduce the cost of the caller's terminal because the display can be eliminated from the terminal.

Regarding claim 4, Tessler discloses a method of:

initiating a call from the calling party directed to an identifier belonging to the call recipient (col. 7, lines 31-33);

matching the identifier to a text name corresponding to the recipient within a database (col. 8, lines 14-15);

retrieving the text name of the recipient from the database (col. 7, lines 59-62);

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audibly playing the audible name of the call recipient to the calling party (col. 9, line 60); Tessler discloses this occurs prior to connecting the call (col. 3, lines 40-43);

Tessler does not explicitly disclose converting the text name of the call recipient to an audible name. However Tessler allows for an audible indication of the call recipient's text name to be announced (col. 9, line 60). Since converting the text name of the call recipient to an audible name was old and not notoriously well known in the art, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to convert the text name of the call recipient to an audible name for performing the suggested audible indication method of Tessler on col. 19, line 60. This modification would reduce the cost of the caller's terminal because the display can be eliminated from the terminal.

Regarding claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 11-13 see Tessler (412), Figure 4.

Regarding claim 14, see Tessler col. 10, lines 14-15.

3. Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tessler in view of Lotito et al, U.S. Patent No. 4625081 (hereinafter Lotito).

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Regarding claim 7, Tessler as applied in claim 4 does not disclose a method of automatically re-dialing the call recipient if the call cannot be connected.

However Lotito discloses a method of automatically re-dialing the call recipient if the call cannot be connected (col. 232, lines 40-43).

Again Tessler allows a method comprising: initiating a call from the calling party directed to an identifier belonging to the call recipient, matching the identifier to a text name corresponding to the recipient within a database, retrieving the text name of the recipient from the database, converting the text name of the call recipient to an audible name, audibly playing the audible name of the call recipient to the calling party prior to connecting the call. Lotito allows a method of automatically re-dialing the call recipient if the call cannot be connected. Automatically re-dialing the call recipient if the call cannot be completed is well known in the art because it saves a calling party the trouble of having to manually redial a called party's telephone number if the call was not completed the first time it was dialed. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tessler with a method of automatically re-dialing the call recipient if the call cannot

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be connected as taught by Lotito. This modification allows saves a calling party the trouble of having to manually redial a called party's telephone number if the call was not completed the first time it was dialed.

Regarding claim 8, see Lotito, col. 2, lines 9-12.

Regarding claim 9, Tessler discloses:

matching an identifier to a text name corresponding to the call recipient wherein the identifier and the text name are stored within a database (col. 8, lines 14-15);

converting the text name of the call recipient to an audible name (col. 9, line 60);

audibly playing the audible name of the recipient to the calling party (col. 2, lines 49-51).

Tessler does not disclose a method of pre-recording a voice message by the calling party directed toward an identifier.

However Lotito discloses a method comprising the steps of:

pre-recording a voice message by the calling party directed toward an identifier belonging to the call recipient (col. 1, lines 9-12).

Again Tessler allows a method comprising the steps of:

matching an identifier to a text name corresponding to the call recipient wherein the identifier and the text name are stored within a database (col. 8, lines 14-15);

converting the text name of the call recipient to an audible name (col. 9, line 60);

audibly playing the audible name of the recipient to the calling party (col. 2, lines 49-51).

Lotito allows a method of pre-recording a voice message by the calling party directed toward an identifier belonging to the call recipient (col. 1, lines 9-12). Allowing a method wherein a calling party pre-records a voice message directed towards an identifier belonging to the call recipient is well known in the art because it allows a calling party to record then send voice messages to a called party. This saves the calling party the trouble of first making a phone call to a called party and then recording the intended voice message. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Tessler with a method of pre-recording a voice message by the calling party directed toward an identifier belonging to the call recipient as taught by Lotito. This modification allows a calling party to record a voice message for a called party and then send the voice message to the called party.

Regarding claim 10, Tessler discloses a method comprising the step of playing the audible name to the calling party (col. 2, lines 49-51). However, Tessler does not disclose a method of audibly delivering the voice message to the call recipient.

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Lotito discloses a method of audibly delivering a voice message to the call recipient (col. 2, lines 9-12). Again Tessler allows a method comprising the step of playing the audible name to the calling party (col. 2, lines 49-51). Lotito allows a method of audibly delivering a voice message to the call recipient.

Delivering a voice message to a call recipient subsequent to playing the audible name to the calling party is well known in the art because this allows a calling party to receive verification that a voice message is going to be sent to the correct called party. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tessler with a method of audibly delivering a voice message to the call recipient as taught by Lotito. This modification allows a calling party to verify a voice message is going to be sent to the correct called party.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olisa Anwah whose telephone number is 703-305-4814. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8.30 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 703-305-4895. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned

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are 703-308-5403 for regular communications and 703-308-5403 for
After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status
of this application or proceeding should be directed to the
receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

O.A.

Olisa Anwah
Patent Examiner
May 14, 2002

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

